

MINUTES

Meeting Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2014

Time: 9:30am

Place: BUSN 302

Voting Members and Alternates in attendance: Hedley Freake (Chair), Eric Donkor (SoE), Jennifer Telford (SoN), David Grant (SoP), Gary Kazmer (CANR)

Ex Officio Members in attendance: Maria Martinez, Kristopher Perry, Monica van Beusekom, Marianne Buck, David Ouimette

Administrators and Guests: Karen Piantek (Admin) and Kay Radcliff

Meeting called to order at 9:35am.

1. Welcome

2. Approval of minutes from the February 4, 2014 meeting

The minutes of the February 4, 2013 meeting were accepted with a correction to the “called to order” time from pm to am.

3. Old Business

3.1. Merging the New Course and Special Topics request forms for INTD/UNIV

- E. Donkor suggested adding a “None” option to question 21 so that reviewers can be certain the course is not a Gen Ed and that leaving this field blank is not an oversight.
- No further changes were suggested and the new form will replace the two old forms on the UICC website

3.2. UICC Policy Manual – Revisions and Additions

- E. Donkor asked if section 3.3 was sufficient to announce the addition of MISI and AIRF courses. He wondered if language should be added to section 2.3, but it was generally felt that the existing language was adequate.
- There was also a question of adding a section on “definitional matters” related to AIRF and MISI courses. It was confirmed that AIRF and MISI courses would follow the procedures for UNIV courses, so a notation stating such will be added to the policy guide.
- K. Perry confirmed that the language in section 3.3 on AIRF and MISI courses was accurate.
- Heading 4.2 about the National Student Exchange needs to be removed from the table of contents; the section has already been removed from the document itself.
- H. Freake asked the committee to look at the newly renumbered section 4.2 in document on Independent Studies. He felt that the part stating “the student is not being supervised by a faculty member” was not true. J. Telford suggested deleting first sentence of the last paragraph. M. van Beusekom suggested deleting the whole paragraph. H. Freake noted that language about the distinction between INTD and UNIV Independent Studies was needed. This section will be revised.
- D. Ouimette questioned whether, given the definition of INTD, INTD Independent Study was really valid or even needed as an option. E. Donkor agreed that its use seemed unlikely. M.

van Beusekom suggested that a University Scholar might want to do a project with two faculty members, and felt that the UICC had no urgent reason to get rid of it.

- H. Freake noted that under usual circumstances, Independent Studies will be supervised by faculty. K. Perry pointed out that making the language sound optional may encourage people to ignore it, but H. Freake stated that UICC has ultimate oversight over these courses and instructors are approved at his discretion.
- H. Freake suggested that the UICC will need to examine what the procedure would be for a student to do an INTD Independent Study. E.g. Would there be two dept head sign-offs? M. van Beusekom noted that often when there are two faculty members, one is lead and one may be second reader, but only one is really doing the grading. The UICC will examine this issue at a later date.
- J. Telford felt that the note in italics about opposition in section 4.2 should be removed.
- H. Freake noted that the document doesn't need to quote the bylaws in section 4.4. A link or reference will be sufficient.
- H. Freake asked the committee if there was anything in the "other info" section that needed to be included. E. Donkor asked about the statement regarding UNIV credit limits. H. Freake noted that the committee had previously decided that this question should be left up to the schools and colleges to decide how many UNIV credits they would accept; this was not the UICC's purview.
- It was determined that the section on other info could be deleted from the document.

4. New Business

4.1 Proposal to add UNIV 2600

- M. van Beusekom explained that she and others in IMJR have been teaching this course as a Special Topics since Fall 2013. It is an optional course for students considering an Individualized Major. Students write papers and begin writing a plan of study and statement of purpose. It is currently offered for one credit online, but they are also considering face-to-face or hybrid formats in order to facilitate relationship-building with and amongst students.
- H. Freake asked how course is going. M. van Beusekom noted that some things have changed about the course already and that it is almost in a finalized state. Instructors are still revising the order of elements within the course. Only 2 of 13 students responded to the official UConn evaluation survey, so they can't see results. Another evaluation was approved through IRB but it was too late in semester to get an adequate response. The instructors will try this again, however, because they want to be able to share this data with other institutions.
- H. Freake asked if the course will eventually be made a requirement. M. van Beusekom said probably not because many IMJRs come in as juniors and have already thoroughly explored the issues covered in the course.

Motion to approve the course by E. Donkor. Motion seconded by J. Telford.

The motion was approved unanimously by the voting members present.

[A subsequent electronic vote extended the unanimous approval to a majority of the schools and colleges]

4.2 Update on meeting with Study Abroad office

- D. Ouimette asked how the "Global Studies" project might be involved in or affected by these discussions.

- It was noted that a subcommittee of the CLAS C&C, convened to consider grading policy for study abroad courses, is not recommending S/U grading as standard for study abroad courses. Allowing transfer of grades may encourage students to study abroad.
- The UICC, however, has just the opposite issue with their “International Study” courses right now in that an S/U designation is needed under some circumstances.
- Regarding the issue of INTD versus UNIV designations, J. Telford felt that until there is a better system, it seems like the UICC must accredit as UNIV. M. van Beusekom suggested that once departments have declined a course, INTD versus UNIV doesn’t really matter. H. Freake noted that it looks like the consensus is for UNIV.
- D. Ouimette asked if anything is being done to keep students from having to go “shopping.” H. Freake noted that various bodies with a stake in this need to make some noise.
- M. Martinez suggested that Dan Weiner, the Vice Provost for Global Affairs, needs to be brought in on this so that students don’t fall through the cracks; Hedley will convey the UICC’s discussions to him.
- M. van Beusekom noted that departments should be encouraged to create both lower and upper level foreign study designations.
- Proposals will be brought forward for UNIV and INTD S/U international study courses at the next UICC meeting.

Adjourned at 10:35 am

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Piantek
IISP Administrator